

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 6725

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 10389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY

REF: OECD PARIS 7871

1. SECGEN'S CEP PROPOSAL IS BACK ON AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AT APRIL 29 COUNCIL MEETING. SECRETARIAT HAS MODIFIED DRAFT TEXTS IN WAY WHICH THEY BELIEVE WILL MAKE DOCUMENTS ACCEPTABLE TO TURKS. IT UNCLEAR, HOWEVER, WHETHER AMENDED TEXTS WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO SPANISH, WHO TURKS REPORT ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ANY IMPLICATION THAT HLG WILL CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE.

2. PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1) IN CORRIGENDUM 1 TO C(75)14:

A) INSERT WORD "PROVISIONAL" BETWEEN WORDS "THE" AND "MANDATE" IN PARA C OF DRAFT ENTRY IN MINUTES.

B) IN DRAFT RESOLUTION, DELETE PARA READING "HAVING REGARD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE OIL COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP AND TO MEMBERSHIP OF THIS GROUP, AS AGREED BY THE OIL COMMITTEE."

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C) IN PARA 3 OF DECISION SECTION, INSERT WORDS

"ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS" IN SECOND SENTENCE
BETWEEN WORDS "REPORT" AND "TO".

2) IN CORRIGENDUM 1 TO C(74)259 .

A) IN PARA I DELETE WORDS "AS A MATTER OF
URGENCY."

3. WE HAVE INFORMED SECRETARIAT THAT, WITH EXCEPTION OF
DELETION OF "HAVING REGARDS" PARA IN C(75)14, WE DO NOT
BELIEVE U.S. WOULD HAVE OBJECTION TO ANY OF PROPOSED
CHANGES, SINCE THEY WOULD NOT APPEAR TO CHANGE LEGAL
STATUS OF HLG, WHICH WAS POINT OF MAJOR CONCERN AT LAST
COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER,
THAT DELETION OF "HAVING REGARDS" PARA COULD BE
UNFORTUNATE BECAUSE IT MIGHT LEAVE IMPRESSION THAT HLG
NO LONGER EXISTED AND THAT REFERENCE IN PARA 3 OF
C(75)14 WAS TO OTHER WORKING PARTIES AND GROUPS AND NOT
TO HLG.

4. IEA LEGAL ADVISER SCOTT, WHO HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED
IN DEVELOPMENT OF REVISED TEXT (WHICH HAS BEEN LEFT TO
ELDIN AND OECD LEGAL ADVISER THOUROT), SHARES OUR
CONCERN ON THIS POINT. AT SCOTT'S SUGGESTION, WE HAVE
TOLD SECRETARIAT THAT, IF DELETION OF "HAVING REGARDS"
PARA IS MADE, THEN THERE ALSO SHOULD BE A STATEMENT BY
THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE RECORD THAT ADOPTION OF
COUNCIL DECISION SETTING UP CEP IN NO WAY AFFECTS
CURRENT STATUS OF HLG, WHICH WOULD REMAIN IN EXISTENCE
UNTIL FURTHER DECISION IN THIS REGARD BY THE CEP AND
THE COUNCIL. UK DELEGATION HAS INDICATED IT SUPPORTS
OUR POSITION ON THIS POINT.

5. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, AND SUBJECT TO
STIPULATION MENTIONED PARA 4 ABOVE, WE PLAN CONCUR IN
SUPPORT OF AMENDED TEXTS AT NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING
IF CLEAR CONSENSUS EMERGES IN FAVOR OF SECGEN'S
PROPOSALS.
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